

CONTRIBUTION TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE  
BRENTIDAE (INSECTA: COLEOPTERA) FROM TROPICAL AFRICA,  
WITH REDESCRIPTION OF *PLESIOBOLBUS SAGAX* KOLBE

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ABSTRACT

The author lists distributional data for 42 species of Brentidae from tropical Africa. Reported for the first time are distributional records from Senegal (1 sp.), Gambia (3 spp.), Mali (1 sp.), Republic of Guinea (8 spp.), Sierra Leone (2 spp.), Burkina Faso (1 sp.), Togo (2 spp.), Benin (1 sp.), Cameroon (15 spp.), Equatorial Guinea (2 spp.), Gabon (7 spp.), Angola (1 sp.), Zambia (1 sp.), Rwanda (5 spp.), Kenya (1 sp.), and South Africa (2 spp.). Remarks are given upon the geographic distribution of each species. The redescription of *Plesiobolbus sagax* Kolbe is also given.

KEY WORDS: Brentidae, tropical Africa, new records, *Plesiobolbus*

INTRODUCTION

Undetermined Brentidae (Insecta: Coleoptera) from the Ethiopian Region were studied in the entomological collections of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA); additional data were added from other public and private collections (Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France; Museum of Zoology and Entomology, Lund, Sweden; Zoologisk Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark; Prof. G. Osella, L'Aquila and Dr. L. Bartolozzi, Firenze, Italy; Mr. B. J. van Vondel, Hendrik Ido Ambacht, Holland). The following paper lists 42 species and includes many new records for the fauna of various tropical African countries. A specimen of *Plesiobolbus sagax* Kolbe was discovered, a species whose existence was seriously questioned by Damoiseau in his monograph on African Brentidae (1967a).

The following list follows the classification of tribes from Zimmermann (1994) and the species order of Damoiseau (1967a), awaiting a revised organization of the Brentidae which is urgently needed. Only papers published after Damoiseau's monograph, or not included in that work, are cited for each species.

INSTITUTIONAL ABBREVIATIONS

CBJV, collection of Mr. B. J. van Vondel, Hendrik Ido Ambacht, Holland; CGO, collection of Prof. Giuseppe Osella, L'Aquila, Italy; CLB, collection of Dr. Luca Bartolozzi, Firenze, Italy; CMNH, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA; MNHN, Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France; MZL, Museum of Zoology and Entomology, Lund, Sweden; MZUF, Museo Zoologico "La Specola," Firenze, Italy; ZMB, Museum für Naturkunde der Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, Germany; ZMC, Zoologisk Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark.

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## Subfamily Brentinae

## Tribe Brentini

*Debora forficata* (J. Thomson)

*Debora forficata*: Damoiseau, 1967a:342; Damoiseau, 1972:268.

*Specimens Examined*.—EQUATORIAL GUINEA. Mongo, 12 Jun 1947, one male (Palau, ex coll. Frieser; CLB).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Ivory Coast, Ghana, Cameroon, Gabon, and People's Republic of Congo; this is the first record for Equatorial Guinea.

*Spatherhinus ophthalmicus* Kolbe

*Spatherhinus ophthalmicus*: Damoiseau, 1967a:347.

*Specimens Examined*.—CAMEROON. Likomba, evening, at light, 11 Feb 1938, one specimen (Buhr; ZMB); Lokom, 10 Sep 1990, one male (Mourglia; CLB).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Gabon and People's Republic of Congo; this is the first record for Cameroon.

*Pericordus freyi* Damoiseau

*Pericordus freyi*: Damoiseau, 1967a:379.

*Specimens Examined*.—ZAMBIA. *Southern Province*: Lusaka, Kafue River, Kafue city, 1200 m, Dec 1985, one male and one female (Ferrero; CLB).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Mozambique and South Africa; this is the first record for Zambia.

*Symmorphocerus approximatus* Damoiseau

*Symmorphocerus approximatus*: Damoiseau, 1967a:382; Damoiseau, 1967c:130.

*Specimens Examined*.—GABON. Ogové R. (= Ogooué River), one female (Good, ex coll. Holland; CMNH).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Republic of Guinea, People's Republic of Congo, and Angola; this is the first record for Gabon.

*Symmorphocerus alluaudi* Senna

*Symmorphocerus alluaudi*: Damoiseau, 1967a:385; Quentin, 1970:219.

*Specimens Examined*.—GAMBIA. About 5 km SSW Gunjur, oil palm and mangrove veg., close to the beach, at light, (18.45–20.30), UTM 28PCK0554, loc. 8, 13 Nov 1977, one female (Cederholm, Danielsson, Hammarstedt, Hedqvist, Samuelsson; MZL). BURKINA FASO. *Ouest*: Bobo Dioulasso, Oct 1982, one male (Politrapp, ex coll. Frieser; CLB). TOGO. *Region Centrale*: Fazao (580 m), 16 Apr 1985, one female (Mourglia; CLB). KENYA. *Machakos*: Kibwezi, Nov 1905, two specimens (Scheffler; ZMB).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Senegal, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, and People's Republic of Congo; these are the first records for Gambia, Burkina Faso, Togo, and Kenya. The record from Kenya is also the first one of this taxon for East Africa (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1.—Distribution of *Symmorphocerus alluaudi* Senna. Triangles: previous records; circles: new records.

### *Afrocordus vicarius* (Kleine)

*Cordus vicarius*: Damoiseau, 1967a:396; Damoiseau, 1967b:12; Damoiseau, 1975:60.

*Afrocordus vicarius*: Damoiseau, 1980:31; Bartolozzi and Osella, 1990:241.

*Specimens Examined*.—GABON. Ogové R. (= Ogooué River), one male (Good, ex coll. Holland; CMNH).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Senegal, Republic of Guinea, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Benin, People's Republic of Congo, Zaire, Angola, Tanzania, and Malawi; this is the first record for Gabon.



Fig. 2.—Distribution of *Hemicordus ivorensis* Damoiseau. Triangle: previous records; circles: new records.

### *Hemicordus ivorensis* Damoiseau

*Hemicordus ivorensis* Damoiseau, 1980:28.

*Specimens Examined*.—SIERRA LEONE. *W. Area*: Freetown, S. Michel Lodge near Lakta, 9–24 Jun 1988, one female (Mourglia; CLB). TOGO. *Ouest*: Fazao (580 m), 16 Apr 1985, one male (Mourglia; CLB). CAMEROON. Johann-Albrechts-Höhe, 10 Apr 1898, one specimen (ZMB); same locality, Jul–Aug 1897, one specimen (Conradt; ZMB).

*Locality Records*.—This species was known only from Ivory Coast; these are the first records for Sierra Leone, Togo, and Cameroon. These new data greatly extend the range of this brentid to the east and west (Fig. 2).

*Perisymphocerus latirostris* (Power)

*Perisymphocerus latirostris*: Damoiseau, 1967a:401; Damoiseau, 1968:172; Damoiseau, 1972:268; Bartolozzi, 1991:19.

*Specimens Examined*.—GAMBIA. About 5 km SSW Gunjur, oil palm and mangrove veg., close to the beach, at light (18.45–20.30), UTM 28PCK0554, loc. 8, 13 Nov 1977, one male (Cederholm, Danielsson, Hammarstedt, Hedqvist, Samuelsson; MZL); 3.5 km S Georgetown, hilltop at Sankuli Kunda, about 30 m, at light (18.30–20.15), UTM 28PEK2593, loc. 37, 15 Nov 1977, one male (Cederholm, Danielsson, Hammarstedt, Hedqvist, Samuelsson; MZL); Tanji River, 3 km SW Brufut, at light (19.00–21.00), UTM 28PCK087773, loc. 9, 20 Feb 1977, one female (Cederholm, Danielsson, Hammarstedt, Hedqvist, Samuelsson; MZL).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Senegal, Equatorial Guinea, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Nigeria, Sudan, and Ethiopia; this is the first record for Gambia.

*Micramorphocephalus consobrinus* Kleine

*Micramorphocephalus consobrinus*: Damoiseau, 1967a:409; Damoiseau, 1972:268.

*Specimens Examined*.—REPUBLIC OF GUINEA. Nimba Mts., Mifergui (700 m), at light, 6 May 1993, one female (Perrin; MNHN).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Senegal, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Ghana, People's Republic of Congo, and Central African Republic; this is the first record for the Republic of Guinea.

*Hadramorphocephalus calvei* (Power)

*Hadramorphocephalus calvei*: Damoiseau, 1967a:411.

*Specimens Examined*.—MALI. *Azaouâd*: Timbuctù (= Tombouctou), 17 Aug 1927, one male and one female (Madsen; ZMC).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Senegal and Chad; this is the first record for Mali.

## Tribe Cyphagogini

*Cormopus guineensis* Damoiseau

*Cormopus guineensis* Damoiseau, 1967a:38.

*Specimens Examined*.—CAMEROON. *Littoral*: 25 km WNW Douala, Modeka, loc. 27, secondary forest and plantation, at light, 18 Jan 1978, one specimen (Gardenfors, Hall, and Samuelsson; MZL).

*Locality Records*.—This species was known only from Guinea; this is the first record for Cameroon.

*Phobetromimus simulans* Kleine

*Phobetromimus simulans*: Damoiseau, 1967a:60; Damoiseau, 1972:260; Bartolozzi and Osella 1990: 234.

*Specimens Examined*.—RWANDA. *Cyangugu pref.*: Nyakabuye, 25 Dec 1982, one specimen (Mühle; CLB).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Republic of Guinea, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Cameroon, People's Republic of Congo, and Tanzania; this is the first record for Rwanda.

*Adidactus cancellatus* (Lacordaire)

*Adidactus cancellatus*: Damoiseau, 1967a:67; Quentin, 1970:209; Damoiseau, 1972:261; Sforzi, 1992:3.

*Specimens Examined*.—REPUBLIC OF GUINEA. Seredou, at light, 16 May 1975, one specimen (Zott; ZMB). NAMIBIA. *East Caprivi*: Mudumu Nat. Park, Nakatwa, (18°10'S–23°26'E), at light, 8–13 Mar 1992, one specimen (Exp. ZMB 1992, Uhlig; ZMB).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Ivory Coast, Ghana, Cameroon, Gabon, People's Republic of Congo, and Tanzania; these are the first records for the Republic of Guinea and Namibia.

*Xestocoryphus intermedius* Damoiseau

*Xestocoryphus intermedius* Damoiseau, 1967a:91; Damoiseau, 1972:261; Bartolozzi, 1991:4.

*Specimens Examined*.—CAMEROON. Johann-Albrechts-Höhe, one specimen (Conradt; ZMB).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Ghana, Zaire, and Tanzania; this is the first record for Cameroon.

*Xestocoryphus decellei* Damoiseau

*Xestocoryphus decellei* Damoiseau, 1967a:94.

*Specimens Examined*.—CAMEROON. *Sud Province*: Lolodorf, Dec 1914, one specimen (Good; CMNH).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Republic of Guinea and Ivory Coast; this is the first record for Cameroon.

*Rhytidopterus compressithorax* (Senna)

*Rhytidopterus compressithorax*: Damoiseau, 1967a:103.

*Specimens Examined*.—RWANDA. *Cyangugu pref.*: Nyakabuye, 24 May 1984, one specimen (Mühle; CLB); same locality, 1–17 Feb 1983, one specimen (Mühle; CLB); Gishoma, 20 Feb 1983, one specimen (Mühle; CLB).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Ivory Coast, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, People's Republic of Congo, and Sudan; this is the first record for Rwanda.

*Podozemius mustus* Kolbe

*Podozemius mustus*: Damoiseau, 1967a:111.

*Specimens Examined*.—SOUTH AFRICA. *Natal*: Tugela River, Starger, Jan 1989, one specimen (Werner; CLB).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Ivory Coast, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and People's Republic of Congo; this is the first record for South Africa.

*Podozemius kolbei* (Kleine)

*Podozemius kolbei*: Damoiseau, 1967a:113; Damoiseau, 1967b:5; Damoiseau, 1967c:126; Damoiseau, 1968:169; Quentin, 1970:210; Damoiseau, 1972:263; Damoiseau, 1975:56.

*Specimens Examined*.—GAMBIA. Bathurst, Jan 1968, one specimen (Palm; MZL). RWANDA. *Cyangugu pref.*: Nyakabuye, 15–30 Nov 1982, three specimens (Mühle; CLB).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo,

Nigeria, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, People's Republic of Congo, Angola, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Tanzania; these are the first records for Gambia and Rwanda.

*Anomalopleura babaulti* (De Muizon)

*Anomalopleura babaulti*: Damoiseau, 1967a:117.

*Specimens Examined*.—REPUBLIC OF GUINEA. Seredou, 4 Apr 1975, one specimen (Zott; ZMB).

*Locality Records*.—This species was known only from People's Republic of Congo; this is the first record for the Republic of Guinea.

*Zemioses rufostriatus* (Kleine)

*Zemioses rufostriatus*: Damoiseau, 1967a:153.

*Specimens Examined*.—RWANDA. *Cyangugu pref.*: Nyakabuye, 24 May 1984, five specimens (Mühle; CLB).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Ivory Coast, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, and People's Republic of Congo; this is the first record for Rwanda.

Tribe Stereodermini

*Cerobates (Cerobates) conveniens* Kleine

*Cerobates (Cerobates) conveniens*: Damoiseau, 1967a:205; Damoiseau, 1967b:8; Quentin, 1970:214; Damoiseau, 1972:265; Bartolozzi and Sforzi, 1994:250.

*Specimens Examined*.—SENEGAL. *Casamance*: 1 km NE Djibelor, about 7.5 km SW Ziguinchor, in forest, at light (19.00–21.00), UTM28PCJ5687, loc. 29, 9 Dec 1977, one specimen (Cederholm, Danielsson, Hammarstedt, Hedqvist, Samuelsson; MZL). CAMEROON. *SW Province*: Fako distr., Bomana, about 11 km N Idenau, 300–400 m, (4°13' N–9°4' E), under bark, 21 Jul 1984, two specimens (Davidson; CMNH).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Ivory Coast, Ghana, Equatorial Guinea, People's Republic of Congo, Zaire, and Kenya; these are the first records for Senegal and Cameroon.

*Cerobates (Cerobates) corruptus* Kleine

*Cerobates (Cerobates) corruptus*: Damoiseau, 1967a:192; Damoiseau, 1967b:8; Bartolozzi and Sforzi, 1994:250.

*Specimens Examined*.—CAMEROON. *Sud Province*: Lolodorf, Sep 1913, one specimen (Good; CMNH). GABON. Kangvé, Ogoové R. (= Ogooué River), one specimen (Good; CMNH).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from People's Republic of Congo, Zaire, Kenya, Tanzania, and Mozambique; these are the first records for Cameroon and Gabon.

*Cerobates (Cerobates) cruentatus* Senna

*Cerobates (Cerobates) cruentatus*: Damoiseau, 1967a:191; Damoiseau, 1967b:8; Quentin, 1970:213; Damoiseau, 1972:264; Bartolozzi and Osella, 1990:236; Bartolozzi, 1991:6; Bartolozzi and Sforzi, 1994:250.

*Specimens Examined*.—GABON. *Moyen Ogoove*: Lambarené, one specimen (Good; CMNH).

*Locality Records*.—This species is known from Ivory Coast, Ghana, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, People's Republic of Congo, Zaire, Uganda, Rwanda, and Kenya; this is the first record for Gabon.

*Cerobates (Jonthocerus) burgeoni* De Muizon

*Cerobates (Jonthocerus) burgeoni*: Damoiseau, 1967a:182; Bartolozzi and Osella, 1990:287.

*Specimens Examined.*—SIERRA LEONE. *Northern Province*: between Sinikoro and Kondembaia, 3 Dec 1984, one male (Rossi; CLB).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Ghana and People's Republic of Congo; this is the first record for Sierra Leone.

*Cerobates (Jonthocerus) elegans* Damoiseau

*Cerobates (Jonthocerus) elegans*: Damoiseau, 1967a:184; Damoiseau, 1967b:6; Damoiseau, 1967c:127; Damoiseau, 1972:264; Bartolozzi, 1991:8.

*Specimens Examined.*—REPUBLIC OF GUINEA. Seredou, at light, 4 Apr 1975, one specimen (Zott; ZMB).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Ghana, Cameroon, People's Republic of Congo, Zaire, Angola, and Uganda; this is the first record for the Republic of Guinea.

## Tribe Trachelizini

*Microtrachelizus fractus* Kleine

*Microtrachelizus fractus*: Damoiseau, 1967a:225.

*Specimens Examined.*—CAMEROON. *Sud Province*: 15 km E Ebolowa Keeke, loc. 15, secondary forest with cocoa plantation, at light, 5 Jan 1978, two specimens (Gardenfors, Hall, Samuelsson; MZL).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from People's Republic of Congo; this is the first record for Cameroon.

*Pseudocecephalus formosus* Kleine

*Pseudocecephalus formosus*: Damoiseau, 1967a:264; Damoiseau, 1967b:13; Damoiseau, 1972:267.

*Specimens Examined.*—CAMEROON. Johann-Albrechts-Höhe, 3–28 Aug 1898, three specimens (ZMB); same locality, 11 Apr–27 May 1898, one specimen (Conradt; ZMB). REPUBLIC OF GUINEA. Seredou, at light, 16 Apr 1975, one specimen (Zott; ZMB).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Ghana, Gabon, and People's Republic of Congo; these are the first records for the Republic of Guinea and Cameroon.

*Pseudomygaleicus grandis* (Damoiseau)

*Pseudomygaleicus grandis*: Damoiseau, 1967a:275; Damoiseau, 1967c:128.

*Specimens Examined.*—EQUATORIAL GUINEA. *Subregion unknown*: one specimen (Tessman; ZMB).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Ivory Coast, Central African Republic, People's Republic of Congo, Zaire, and Angola; this is the first record for Equatorial Guinea.

*Pseudomygaleicus surdus* Damoiseau

*Pseudomygaleicus surdus* Damoiseau, 1967a:281; Damoiseau, 1975:59.

*Specimens Examined.*—BENIN. *Borgou*: Parakou, 5–24 Jul 1989, one specimen (van Vondel; CBJV).



*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Ivory Coast, Angola, and Uganda, this is the first record for Benin.

*Gynandrorhynchus tarsalis* (Kleine)

*Gynandrorhynchus tarsalis*: Damoiseau, 1967a:294; Damoiseau, 1972:267; Damoiseau, 1975:58; Bartolozzi, 1991:14.

*Specimens Examined.*—REPUBLIC OF GUINEA. Nimba Mts., Bossou (550 m), (on dead *Ficus* sp.), 5 May 1993, one specimen (Perrin; MNHN). CAMEROON. Efulen, Oct–Nov 1913, 23 specimens (Weber; CMNH). GABON. *Ogoove Maritime*: Batanga, one specimen (Good; CMNH). RWANDA. *Cyangugu pref.*: Nyakabuye, 20 Jul 1984, one specimen (Mühle; CLB).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Ivory Coast, Ghana, Zaire, Angola, and Tanzania; these are the first records for Republic of Guinea, Cameroon, Gabon, and Rwanda.

*Gynandrorhynchus audax* (Kleine)

*Gynandrorhynchus audax*: Quentin, 1966:1641; Damoiseau, 1967a:296.

*Specimens Examined.*—CAMEROON. Johann-Albrechts-Höhe, 14 Sep–6 Oct 1898, one specimen (Conradt; MZB); same locality, 11 Apr–27 May 1898 one specimen (Conradt; MZB); same locality, 30 Jan 1898, one specimen (Conradt; MZB).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Ivory Coast, People's Republic of Congo, Zaire, and Mozambique; this is the first record for Cameroon.

*Anampyx edentulus* Damoiseau

*Anampyx edentulus*: Damoiseau, 1967a:308.

*Specimens Examined.*—CAMEROON. Nasanakang, one specimen (Diehl; ZMB); *Sud Province*: Lolodorf, 8 Feb–27 Mar 1895, one specimen (Conradt; ZMB); Efulen, 28 Nov–29 Dec 1911/12, eight specimens (Weber; CMNH).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from People's Republic of Congo; this is the first record for Cameroon.

*Eumecopodus longicornis* Calabresi

*Eumecopodus longicornis*: Damoiseau, 1967a:318.

*Specimens Examined.*—CAMEROON. Efulen, 6 Feb 1912, one female (Weber; CMNH).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from People's Republic of Congo and Tanzania; this is the first record for Cameroon.

*Eumecopodus burgeoni* De Muizon

*Eumecopodus burgeoni*: Damoiseau, 1967a:320.

*Specimens Examined.*—GABON. *Moyen Ogoove*: Lambarené, one female (Good, ex coll. Holland; CMNH).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Republic of Guinea and People's Republic of Congo; this is the first record for Gabon.

*Phitoderes gestroi* Calabresi

*Phitoderes gestroi*: Damoiseau, 1967a:323; Bartolozzi and Osella, 1990:239.

*Specimens Examined.*—CAMEROON. *Sud Province*: Lolodorf, Feb 1914, one male (Good; CMNH); Efulen, Sep 1909 and 5 Dec 1913, two females (Weber; CMNH).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and People's Republic of Congo; this is the first record for Cameroon.

*Thoracobrenthus semistriatus* Damoiseau

*Thoracobrenthus semistriatus*: Damoiseau, 1967a:326.

*Specimens Examined.*—CAMEROON. *Sud Province*: Lolodorf, Nov 1914, one specimen (Good; CMNH); Metet, Apr 1918, one specimen (Good; CMNH); without locality, 5 Apr 1910, one specimen (Weber; CMNH).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Ivory Coast and People's Republic of Congo; this is the first record for Cameroon.

*Heterothesis elegans* Kleine

*Heterothesis elegans*: Damoiseau, 1967a:332; Damoiseau, 1967c:129.

*Specimens Examined.*—GABON. Ogové R. (= Ogooué River), 12 males (Good, ex coll. Holland; CMNH).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Cameroon, People's Republic of Congo, and Angola; this is the first record for Gabon.

*Paryphobrenthus latirostris* (Gerstäcker)

*Paryphobrenthus latirostris*: Damoiseau, 1967a:334; Damoiseau, 1968:171; Sforzi, 1992:5.

*Specimens Examined.*—ANGOLA. *Huila distr.*: Mulondo (3600 ft), 23 Nov 1930, one male (CMNH). SOUTH AFRICA. *NE Transvaal*: Ofcolaco, Makhutswe River, Jan 1989, one female (Werner; CLB).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Zaire, Sudan, Tanzania, and Mozambique; these are the first records for Angola and South Africa.

Tribe Atopobrentini (sensu Damoiseau, 1967a)

*Neoceocephalus freyi* De Muizon

*Neoceocephalus freyi*: Damoiseau, 1967a:241; Bartolozzi, 1991:9; Bartolozzi and Sforzi, 1994:251.

*Specimens Examined.*—ZAMBIA. Nmkande, Nov 1973, three specimens (Piacenza; CGO, CLB).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Zaire, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, and South Africa; this is the first record for Zambia.

*Neoceocephalus punctatus* Damoiseau

*Neoceocephalus punctatus*: Damoiseau, 1967a:247; Damoiseau, 1972:266.

*Specimens Examined.*—REPUBLIC OF GUINEA. Seredou, at light, 4 Apr 1975, one specimen (Zott; ZMB).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Ghana, Cameroon, Gabon, and People's Republic of Congo; this is the first record for the Republic of Guinea.

*Neoceocephalus fausti* (Senna)

*Neoceocephalus fausti*: Damoiseau, 1967a:251; Damoiseau, 1975:58.

*Specimens Examined.*—REPUBLIC OF GUINEA. Seredou, at light, 4 Apr 1975, two specimens (Zott; ZMB).

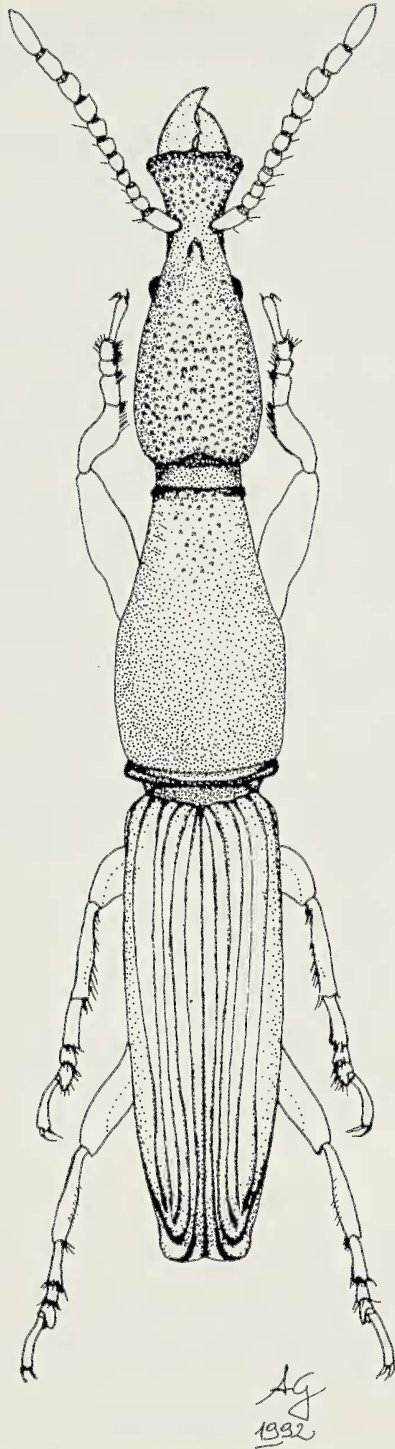


Fig. 3.—*Plesiobolbus sagax* Kolbe: habitus (total length 16.1 mm).

*Locality Records.*—This species is known from Ivory Coast, Cameroon, People's Republic of Congo, Angola, and South Africa (Transvaal); this is the first record for the Republic of Guinea.

Tribe Taphroderini (sensu Damoiseau, 1967a)

*Plesiobolbus sagax* Kolbe

*Plesiobolbus sagax*: Damoiseau, 1967a:463; Bartolozzi, 1991:26.

*Specimens Examined.*—CAMEROON. Efulen, Nov 1913, one male (Weber; CMNH).

*Taxonomy and Distribution.*—This species was briefly described by Kolbe in 1916, but Damoiseau (1967a) questioned the validity of this taxon and even the genus *Plesiobolbus* Kolbe. His statement was based on the fact that the types of the two species of *Plesiobolbus* (*P. sagax* and *P. cribriceps* Kolbe) could not be found, and Damoiseau never saw any African Taphroderinae with the characters of the genus. Two specimens in the Museum of Tervuren identified as *Plesiobolbus* by the well-known German specialist Kleine, were in fact females of the widespread species *Anisognathus czikii* Bolkay (Damoiseau, 1967a:463). Bartolozzi (1991) confirmed the validity of the genus *Plesiobolbus* and described the new species *P. martini* from Tanzania. In the material of CMNH there is a male specimen of *P. sagax*, the first to be found after Kolbe's short description of the species. The specimen agrees well with the short diagnosis of Kolbe, although its length (16.1 mm) is much greater than the type specimen of *P. sagax* (9.5 mm). It is useful to redescribe and illustrate this very rare and interesting insect.

*Redescription.*—Male: total length 16.1 mm, maximum width (at pronotum) 2.3 mm, antennae 3.9 mm. Body reddish brown with pronotum almost black (Fig. 3). Head longer than broad, with slightly rounded sides, well separated from neck. Occiput slightly projecting posteriorly on neck and bilobed. Temples longer than meta-, meso-, and prorostrum together. Upper surface covered with strong, shining granulation. Rostrum (length 2.4 mm). Metarostrum slightly shorter than distance between eyes, narrowing anteriorly; a fovea present between meta- and mesorostrum. Mesorostrum almost as long as metarostrum. Prorostrum as long as distance between eyes, enlarged anteriorly. Upper surface punctuated. Anterior border of prorostrum almost straight with very small projection in middle. Mandibles as long as prorostrum, acuminate, left one with tooth in middle. Pronotum as long as head and rostrum together, narrowed anteriorly. Surface smooth, dull, with sparse short golden pubescence; granulation on distal half of pronotal disc. Elytra shorter than pronotum and head together, narrowed posteriorly and narrower than pronotum. Upper surface convex; striae slightly punctuated, interstriae flattened with sparse short golden pubescence; interstriae 1, 2, and 3 elevated on declivity. Base of elytra slightly concave; each elytron apically rounded. Femora laterally compressed at base, unarmed. Underside reddish, shining, with golden pubescence only under rostrum. Two small longitudinal depressions laterally on mesorostrum. Small rounded foveola near base of head.

Female: unknown.

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